REMARKS

Summary OF The Office Action

Claims 1-20 were rejected.

Summary of the Response

Claims 1-20 are cancelled.

Claims 21-48 are new.

Double Patenting Rejection

Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejection in view of the amendment, including the deletion of claims 1-20 and the addition of new claims 21-48.

Substantive Rejections

The Office Action rejected claims 1-11, and 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. Applicant No. 5,548,789 ("Nakanura"). Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Nakanura, as combined with U.S. Patent No. 5,377,354 ("Scannell").

Applicant believes the new claims are distinguishable from the cited references. Independent Claim 21, for example, recites a method for managing a plurality of messages, where, for any one of a plurality of messages, the method includes: "identifying an instance of a property contained in the message...determining whether the identified instance is stored [somewhere]". For a given message, claim 21 recites that if the identified instance is determined to be new, then the identified instance is stored and associated with a message identifier of the given message. If the identified instance is

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not new, then message identifier of the given message is associated with the instance that already exists. These limitations, and others recited in the claim and its dependencies, are not suggested or taught by the cited references.

With regard to independent claim 35, the cited references fail to disclose, for example, "one or more modules that are operable to link an instance of a first message to a first set of two or more information items in the plurality of information items stored in the first data structure". These limitations, and others recited in the claim and its dependencies, are not suggested or taught by the cited references.

Independent claim 45 includes features such as "one or more modules that are operable to analyze each of the plurality of messages in order to (i) identify the unique instances of the individual messages in the plurality of messages, and (ii) generate the message-correspondent information." This feature, as well as other limitations in the claim, are not taught or suggested by the cited references.
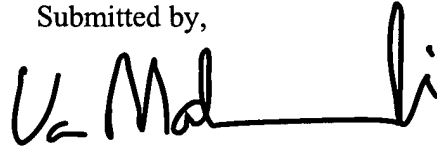
Support

No new matter has been added with the addition of any of the new claims. Support for the claims presented by this paper may be found throughout the application, including with FIG. 9A-9H and 10A-10C and the accompanying text on columns 12-16. Specific support for independent claim 21 and 45 may be found in columns 12-14, FIG. 9H and FIG. 9G, and elsewhere in the application. Support for independent claim 35 may be found with FIG. 9F and 9G, as well as in columns 10-12. Support for specific nomenclature such as "RFC822" is also provided in the application.

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CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If there are any questions or comments that the Examiner wishes to direct to Applicant's attorney, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at (408) 551-6632. The Patent Office is authorized to charge all unpaid fees to the deposit account 50-1914.

Submitted by,

Van Mahamedi

July 5, 2005

Reg. No. 42,828

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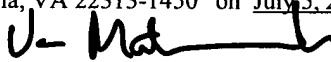Van Mahamedi

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Certificate of Mailing

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper is being submitted with the U.S. Postal service with sufficient postage as first class mail, addressed to "Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" on July 5, 2005.

Signature:

Print Name: Van Mahamedi

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